



The Weekly Bulletin
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Albemarle, North Carolina

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November 24, 2019

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

MORNING MEDITATION

Lord, help me to relax. Take from me the tension that makes peace impossible. Take from me the worries that blind my sight. Take from me the distress that hides your joy. Help me to know that I am with you, that I am in your care, that I am in your love. Amen.

Based on Psalm 37, this prayer comes from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand.

PEALING OF THE BELLS

OPENING SENTENCES

The Lord is good.

His steadfast love endures forever.

Psalm 100:5

CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

Please sign and pass the Register of Friendship during this time.

CHORAL INTROIT

Rejoice, the Lord is King

John Darwall

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Katherine Jolly

Psalm 46

Be still!

We gather to quiet ourselves in this house of holiness.

Be still and know.

We gather to discern the Word, which can set us free.

Be still and know that God is.

Our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal God, the refuge and help of all your children, we praise you for all you have given us, for all you have done for us. In our weakness, you are strength, in our darkness, you are light, in our sorrow, you are comfort and peace. We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love. May we live as in your presence, love the things that you love, and serve you in our daily lives. Amen.

Prayer of Saint Boniface

***HYMN 263**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

Coronation

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Silence

God of wonder and might, we confess that we have placed our faith in earthly powers instead of in your promises. You have called us to work for your reign in this world, *on earth as it is in heaven*, yet we have taken these words as a platitude instead of a pledge. Forgive us, O Lord.

Luke 23:33-43

Glory to God hymnal
page 582

The congregation is
encouraged to participate
in the prayer with the
children.

Glory to God hymnal
page 288

Sermons are posted to the
church's website
(www.fpcalbemarle.org).
You can usually find the
previous Sunday's
sermon by Wednesday.

This affirmation is
excerpted from the
Confession of 1967.

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has
pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

Reverend Drumheller

Children will be invited to come forward. At the conclusion of Faith Sharing with Children, parents may take preschool children to the nursery. Children in grades K-2 may go to the chapel for Children's Church.

ANTHEM

My Eternal King

Jane M. Marshall

My God, I love Thee not because I hope for heaven thereby,
Nor yet because who love Thee not must die eternally.
Thou, O my Jesus, Thou didst me upon the cross embrace,
For me didst bear the nails and spear, and manifold disgrace.

Why, then why, O blessed Jesus Christ, should I not love Thee well?
Not for the hope of winning heaven, or of escaping hell;
Not with the hope of gaining aught, not seeking a reward;
But as Thyself hast loved me, O ever loving Lord.

E'en so I love Thee, and will love, and in Thy praise will sing.
Solely because Thou are my God, and my Eternal King.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me; fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

SCRIPTURE READING

[Luke 23:33-43](#)

Pew Bible, page 83

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The King

Reverend Drumheller

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN 267**

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Madrid

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Martha Sue Hall

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TITHES AND OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

Doxology

Beautiful Savior

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

David Cherwien

hymnal, page 606

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

Lyons

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Sevenfold Amen

John Stainer

*POSTLUDE

Crown Him with Many Crowns

Jason D. Payne

*All that are able may stand.

We are grateful for your presence with us today. If you are a member of this church, please seek out those who are visiting and welcome them to this family of faith. If you are visiting and would like to know more about the church and membership here, please speak with one of the ministers following worship.

The acolyte today is Thora Kilde. After extinguishing the Christ candle, the acolyte takes the light of Jesus Christ out into the world.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in memory of our daughter, Jody Oliver, and her husband, Jacob Oliver, by Cathryn and Claude Harwood.

Thanks to Katherine Jolly for serving as liturgist this morning. Katherine is the daughter of Liz and Ben Jolly and is a 9th grader at Gray Stone Day School.

Elizabeth is preaching at Macedonia Presbyterian Church in Candor this morning and moderating a congregational meeting. Macedonia is currently without installed pastoral leadership.

Ushers: Brett Richards, captain; Mark Donham, Judy Kilgore, Ethan Richards, Seth Richards **Outside Ushers:** Jim Marshall; Chris Whitley **Elder Greeters:** Jim Marshall; Jacob Palmer **Nursery:** Kate White **Kids Care Crew:** Debby Johnston; Carol Sasser **Children's Church:** Liz Jolly; Katherine Jolly

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, December 1. Please prepare your hearts and minds to feast at the table of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We ask that you keep these people in your prayers: Sean Hickey (brother-in-law of Lori Ivey; colon cancer), Jean Rabe (rehab from hip surgery; at Trinity Place), Jane Scheer (Spring Arbor), Catherine Johnson (niece of Elizabeth Wilson; diagnosed with breast cancer), Rin Gannon (friend of Isabel McLeod; recovering from a stroke), Barbara Whitley (recovering from back surgery), Don Joines, Mark Mabry, Jane Pickler. **See newsletter for complete list.**

**2019 Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance
Sunday, November 24**

The mission of Children's Hope Alliance is to provide a safe, healing journey for hurting children and families – creating hope now and in the future. All of the services provided by Children's Hope Alliance create hope for hurting children and families in three ways...

- ❖ *Healing the hurt*
- ❖ *Providing a safe home and*
- ❖ *Encouraging a healthy start*

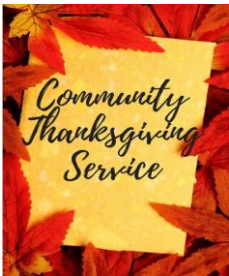
Your generous donation will make an impact on each child.

Bring your offering on Sunday, November 24.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

John 15:12 (NSRV)





**Community Thanksgiving Worship
Sunday, November 24 at 7:00 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church
(175 North 1st Street, Albemarle)
Area pastors will assist in worship.**

Nina Miller, pastor of Bethany United Methodist Church, will preach. An offering will be received for the CARE Café which provides scheduled respite for those who care for elderly family members. Refreshments and fellowship will follow worship.

Alternative Christmas Gifts

On November 24 and December 1, 8, and 15, there will be opportunities to purchase alternative gifts in the Pit Stop. You will be able to select from among both local and international recipients. For each purchase, you will receive one of several holiday-themed acknowledgement cards. Cards have been prepared by artist, Leslie Carter. The charities are: The Community Care Clinic, Homes of Hope/The Community Inn, Stanly Community Christian Ministry (SCCM), and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).



**Luncheon Help Needed for Advent Service at Christ Episcopal Church
Wednesday, December 4 at Noon**

First Presbyterian Church is responsible for providing lunch following the noon advent service. Janet Schaefer is the coordinator. Please let her know if you can donate a dessert, soup, or cornbread. She will also need help with prep, transporting, serving, and clean-up on the day of the lunch, Wednesday, December 4. Sign-up sheet on clip board in Pit Stop or contact Janet Schaefer (janet.schaefer@gmail.com or 614-579-9096). Thank You!



SERRV food items will be available again on Sunday mornings November 24 and December 8 in the pit stop. At other times, contact Ann Duckwall (704-983-3498).

Angel Tree 2019



There is an ornament waiting for you or your group on the Christmas tree in the Pit Stop. Please stop by and select one or more with the name of a Central Elementary School student or their sibling. You will be provided with not only their Christmas gift wish-list but guidelines for how best to bring delight to that child on Christmas Day. **Be sure to fill in your name or the name of your group/ family on the appropriate line(s) on the sign-up sheet. Each child's name is linked to a specific number on the sheet. The unwrapped gifts need to be returned to the church in a large bag by Sunday, December 8.** Should you have any questions, contact Peggy Finley at 704/985-1136 or maf447 @windtream.net.



**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHILI LUNCH, DECORATING, AND ADVENT FOR ALL
Sunday, December 1 following worship**

EVERYONE is invited to join us on Sunday, December 1 after the chili luncheon for our Advent celebration!

This is a joyous time of fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of the Advent season together.

We will frost and sprinkle Christmas cookies, make a take home Christmas countdown craft, and share God's love by making Christmas cards that we will be giving to our neighbors at the Community Christmas Dinner.

This celebration will start around 12:45 p.m. in the pit stop.



**Christmas Kitchen
Sunday, December 15
Before & After Worship in the Pit Stop**

Mark your calendars!!! Our Youth Group is hosting its Christmas Kitchen on Sunday, December 15 before and after worship in the pit stop. Make plans to attend and purchase some delicious baked goods for the holidays. If you are contributing to the sale, dishes should be brought to the church no later than 9:00 a.m. on December 15. You are also welcome to bring dishes in advance. Contact Dorothy know if you are willing to bake any treats to contribute (dhart@fpcalbemarle.org or 828-244-3824).

If you are willing to make and donate cakes, pies, casseroles, etc., for the youth sponsored Christmas Kitchen, please sign-up below and turn in to the church office.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Item(s) you will make & donate: _____



A journey past trauma

GENESYS, age 19

Eleven years ago, Genesys entered "the system." She was 8 years old and had endured sexual abuse from cousins, as well as physical abuse and neglect from her mother. Like so many others, Genesys moved through placements in different homes. Fortunately, at age 13, she arrived in the home of the foster mother who still cares for her today.

After a tumultuous past, Genesys had to cope with feelings she didn't understand and didn't know how to control. That's when her foster mother started taking her to therapy sessions. The approach the therapist used with her addressed the trauma she had faced as a young girl, and it helped her to define her story instead of letting past events define her. She also learned how to regulate her emotions and engage in relaxation techniques.

Genesys' foster mother and our staff who have worked with her over the years are amazed at her resilience. She's found support through a church community, joined the PRAISE team, and dances with them each Sunday. She's learned how to be trusting, kind, and warm to others, even though others in her life had not always been kind or warm.

Last year, she went to her school prom, graduated from high school, reconnected with some of her family members.

Because of her hard work and people like you helping fulfill our mission, Genesys is beginning her first semester in college. Thank you for supporting teens like Genesys.

*Child's name and photo have been changed for her protection, but her story is very real.



#BETTHEHOPE

www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org

Thank you

for continuing to support
our children and families.



**you can
make a
difference**

One in seven NC children has a mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder. Last year, **less than 30 percent of NC children** with a mental health disorder received the treatment they needed. That means **NC ranked dead last nationwide**. Our goal at Children's Hope Alliance is to work toward closing this gap so that ALL children and families in North Carolina will receive the help they need.

Please consider making a gift today to show children that no matter what their individual circumstances are, that their Heavenly Father cares about them. **Your continued support means the world to the children and families we serve.**

*...We will take
your many gifts
to the people
who need them.
And they will give
thanks to God.*

— 2 Corinthians 9:11 NIRV

Children's Hope Alliance is the combination of **Barium Springs** and **Grandfather Home for Children** joining forces to serve children and families throughout North Carolina. Our comprehensive services and programs are designed to give hope to our clients by providing a safe home, healing their hurt and encouraging a healthy start.



children's hope
— ALLIANCE —

www.ChildrensHopeAlliance.org

Post Office Box 1
Barium Springs, NC 28010

For more information:
1-800-320-4157



OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 24

Thanksgiving Offering for Children's Hope Alliance

SERRV Sale before & after worship

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

6:00 pm Youth Group Friendsgiving

7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Worship at Central UMC
(172 North 2nd St., Albemarle)

Monday, November 25

7:00 pm Book Conversation (parlor)

8:00 pm Bible Study with Matt

8:30 pm High School Bible Study at Elizabeth's
(1611 Bellamy Circle, Albemarle)

Wednesday, November 27

6:30 am Toby Webb Men's Prayer Breakfast

Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving Day

Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent/The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper/

*Ten-Cents-A-Meal Offering for Hunger/Alternative Gifts Available
in the Pit Stop*

9:00 am Breakfast Bunch (2nd & 3rd Graders in Media Room)

9:45 am *Sunday School

11:00 am *Worship

12:00 pm Advent Chili Lunch, Decorating, & Advent for All

12:00 pm Mission Committee

***childcare provided**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

24-John Earnhardt

25-Shirley Hinson

29-Janice Abernathy

Matt Drumheller

30-Bill Hall

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

NOVEMBER

26-Mark & Kim Andrew

29-Skeet & Elizabeth Ayscue

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

DECEMBER

01-Steve Cumming

Ruth Goodwin

Catherine Moeller

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR NOVEMBER

Canned Vegetables...

Green Beans, Corn, Carrots, Peas, Beans,

Mixed Vegetables (Vegall),

Canned Tomatoes

SCCM CHALLENGE FOR DECEMBER

Boxed Pasta Meals (Hamburger Helper)

Instant Potatoes

Stuffing Mix